

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated promoter that drives transcription in a seed-preferred manner, wherein said promoter comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:
  - a) sequences natively associated with and that drive expression ~~in~~ of DNA coding for maize Jip1 (jasmonate induced protein-1);
  - b) the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1; and
  - c) a sequence comprising a ~~functional~~ fragment of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.
2. (Currently Amended) An isolated promoter that is capable of driving transcription in a seed-preferred manner, wherein said promoter comprises a nucleotide sequence natively associated with and that drives expression ~~in~~ of DNA coding for maize Jip1.
- 3-5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously Presented) An isolated promoter that is capable of driving transcription in a seed-preferred manner, wherein said promoter comprises a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 7-20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) An expression cassette comprising a promoter and a first nucleotide sequence operably linked to the promoter, wherein the promoter initiates seed-preferred transcription of the first nucleotide sequence in a plant cell, wherein the promoter comprises a second nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) the nucleotide sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1;
- b) a sequence comprising a ~~functional~~ fragment of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1; and
- c) a nucleotide sequence natively associated with and that drives expression ~~in~~ of DNA coding for maize Jip1 (jasmonate-induced protein).

22-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) The expression cassette of claim 21, wherein the promoter comprises a nucleotide sequence natively associated with and that drives expression ~~in~~ of DNA coding for maize Jip1 (jasmonate-induced protein).

41. (Currently Amended) The expression cassette of claim 21, wherein the promoter comprises the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

42-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently Amended) An isolated promoter that drives transcription in a seed-preferred manner, wherein said promoter comprises a ~~functional~~ fragment of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

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45. (Currently Amended) The expression cassette of claim 21, wherein the promoter comprises a ~~functional~~ fragment of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.